

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 USIA-06 MCT-01 HA-05
AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSC-05 SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 CA-01
A-01 SCS-06 OMB-01 SS-15 /092 W
-----021014 292241Z /75

R 291052Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7610
AMEMBASSY KABUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 03026

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC AF PINS
SUBJ: TERRORIST THREAT LETTER DIRECTED AGAINST AMERICANS
IN KABUL

REF: A. KABUL 2297, B. KABUL 2299, C. STATE 78552

1. ASIDE FROM WRY AND REGRETFUL "WELCOME TO THE CLUB" TEHRAN
CAN ADD LITTLE HARD DATA ON THREAT TO USIS LIBRARY KABUL (REFS
A AND B). EXCELLENT DEPARTMENTAL BACKGROUNDER (REF C) GIVES
BASICS ON CHARIKS.

2. OUR FIRST REACTION AFTER READING LETTER (REF B) IS THAT
THERE IS AT MOST A MARGINAL CONNECTION BETWEEN KABUL EFFORT
AND IRANIAN CHARIKS. THOUGH CHARIKS HERE HAVE COME OUT IN
SUPPORT OF PLO OBJECTIVES ON SPORADIC OCCASIONS SINCE 1972,
THE FEW DOCUMENTS WE HAVE SEEN HAVE BEEN MUCH MORE CONCERNED
WITH DOMESTIC IRANIAN MATTERS. NOTHING ALONG LINES OF KABUL
LETTER HAS SURFACED HERE, THOUGH CHARIKS DID CIRCULATE LETTER
IN JANUARY 1978 CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMB BLAST
WHICH DAMAGED IRAN-AMERICAN SOCIETY STUDENT CENTER ON
DEC 28, THREE DAYS BEFORE PRESIDENT CARTER'S END-OF-
YEAR VISIT TO TEHRAN. THEIR SUBSEQUENT PROPAGANDA HERE
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HAS HAD SOMEWHAT MORE ANTI-AMERICAN TINGE THAN FORMERLY
BUT WITH NO MENTIONS OF CHINESE OR MAO TSE-TUNG. IF
KABUL GROUP WERE REALLY IRANIANS, WE WOULD HAVE EXPECTED
ANY DOCUMENT THEY ISSUED TO TAKE EXTENSIVE SWATS AT
SHAH. WHILE "ARMED ATTACK" SMACKS OF THE CHARIKS, THAT
PHRASE IS HARDLY ORIGINAL. MOREOVER, COMMON PRACTICE OF
IRANIAN TERRORIST GROUPS IS TO CLAIM CREDIT FOR AND

EXPLAIN A TERRORIST ACT AFTER THE FACT. WE KNOW OF NO INSTANCES WHERE VICTIMS WERE WARNED IN ADVANCE.

3. EMBASSY IS CHECKING OUT POSSIBLE CHARIK CAPABILITIES IN AFGHANISTAN WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, BUT THEIR INITIAL REACTION IS SIMILAR--IRANIAN CHARIKS HAVE INSUFFICIENT ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITY OR DESIRE FOR TYPE OF FOREIGN PROJECTION DESCRIBED REF A. IN THIS CONNECTION, WOULD APPRECIATE KABUL POUCHING FARSI COPY OF NOTE FOR EXAMINATION HERE.

4. AS INITIAL VIEW, WE TEND TO THINK USE OF CHARIK SIGNATURE MAY HAVE RESULTED FROM CLOSE CONNECTION OF OTHERS (PROBABLY PALESTINIANS) WITH GOOD IRANIAN FRIEND, PERHAPS SYMPATHETIC TO CHARIK CAUSE, WHO MAY HAVE HELPED DRAFT LETTER SENT TO USIS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: THREATS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HARASSMENT, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN03026
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780137-0035
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780311/aaaaajgj.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4f9924b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 KABUL 2297, 78 KABUL 2299, 78 STATE 78552
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3127704
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERRORIST THREAT LETTER DIRECTED AGAINST AMERICANS IN KABUL
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, AF
To: STATE KABUL
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4f9924b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014